From: Marilyn Frankenstein
To: Kelley, Craig
Subject: Re: Cambridge City Council and the Israel BDS movement
Date: Monday, April 16, 2018 5:17:42 PM

Thanks for your prompt reply, Craig.

I am heartened and respect that you will be meeting with people who have a diversity of opinions on the resolution.

I do not understand the argument about "delegitimizing Israel." How can using peaceful means to advocate for any government to change its policies "delegitimize" that government?

In terms of "singling out" Israel, Cambridge has a long and (for me) proud history of acting in opposition to many countries whose policies have violated civil and human rights. Just recently, our City Council adopted a resolution "in opposition to the oppressive policies of MbS and Saudi Arabia."

I have always been confused by the "singling out" criticism. Opposing the oppressive actions of one government does not restrict opposing the oppressive actions of other governments.

On the contrary, refusing to pass a resolution opposing the actions of the Israeli government because *all* the other oppressive regimes in the world have not *yet* been officially opposed, is "singling out" Israel as immune to criticism and peaceful pressure.

If you would like to explore these issues further after your meetings, I would be happy to put you in touch with people who are very knowledgable about the history and current policies of Israel and Palestine, and who support the resolution.

Sincerely,
Marilyn

From: "Kelley, Craig" <ckelley@cambridgema.gov>
Date: Monday, April 16, 2018 at 4:11 PM
To: Marilyn Frankenstein <marilyn.frankenstein@umb.edu>
Subject: Cambridge City Council and the Israel BDS movement

Thanks for your note, Marilyn.

I know next to nothing about this except that I am being bombarded with emails from people who seem to know more and I found a flyer at the Kennedy School two weeks ago. I am meeting with pro and con folks this week and next to learn more.

Not having seen the resolution, which won't be officially posted until the Thursday before the Council meeting, I cannot say anything with surety except that I will not support an attempt to delegitimize Israel although I could be supportive of something that expresses concerns over some of Israel's policies without singling them out as the only nation in the world with problematic policies.

I also think this is a lousy way to manipulate local government. If we want to take stances on good and bad in the world, and arguably we should, it only seems fair that we do so via some agreed upon criteria that does not single out specific entities for the sake of political expedience.

But like I said, I actually have not seen anything for the Council yet so my opinion is not well informed.

Craig